

Wildflowers

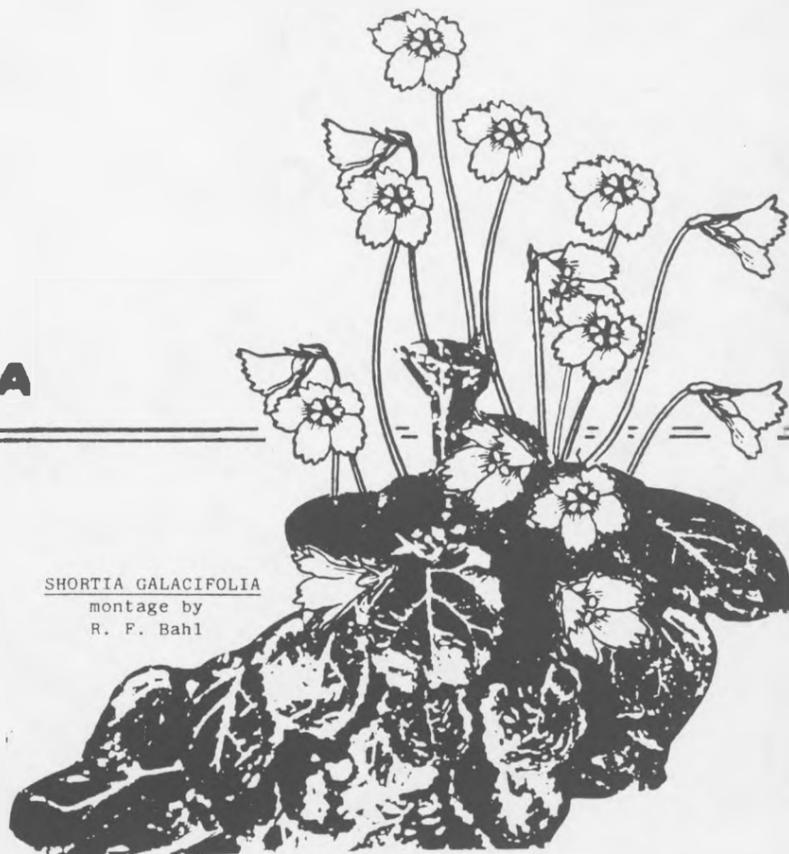
THE BULLETIN OF THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA

APRIL 1985						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Robert F. Bahl, Secretary
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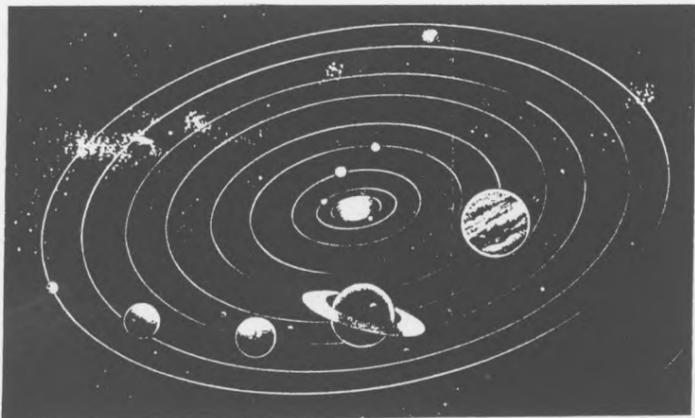
SHORTIA GALACIFOLIA
montage by
R. F. Bahl



APRIL MEETING

Monthly meeting of the Botanical Society -- at 8:00 P.M. Monday, April 8 at Carlow College, Fifth Avenue, Oakland.

Program -- "Effects of Radiation on Space Seeds" by Tracy Soltesz.



APRIL FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

All field trips are scheduled on Saturdays. The rendezvous time is 1:30 p.m. If you have any questions, call our Field Trip Chairman, Esther Allen, at 366-0786.

April 13 - RACCOON CREEK STATE PARK

Meet at the Wildflower Reserve parking lot on Rt. 30, west of Pittsburgh and Clinton, shortly after crossing Raccoon Creek.

April 20 - FT. NECESSITY NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

This will be our first trip to this historical site to begin the preparation of a checklist of plants there.

Ft. Necessity is located approximately ten miles southeast of Uniontown on Rt. 40. Tentative Leader, Ranger Timothy Stone.

April 27 - WOLF CREEK NATURAL AREA

From I-79 take the Slippery Rock Exit and turn left (toward Slippery Rock) on Rt. 108. Go about one mile to intersection where there is a Dairy Queen store on the right. Turn left and continue to first paved road on right. Go past dairy farm on left, and meet at grassy triangular area where the road curves to right. Howard McIlvried, Leader.

BLUE AMARYLLIS

Bob Morgan shares with us this clipping from "USA TODAY" --

Scientist cultivates flower rare to USA

HARTFORD, Conn. — A rare species of the amaryllis, last produced from seed to flower in the USA 40 years ago, has been cultivated by a University of Connecticut horticulturist. It has taken Professor Ronald Parker seven years to raise seven blue amaryllis bulbs from seeds and coax three of them to bloom. The deep lavender or pale blue species' natural habitat is the mountain region of Brazil, where it flowers regularly, Parker says. A blue amaryllis bulb would cost between \$200 and \$300, Parker says. He hopes tissue culturing will make the flower more commercially accessible.

SHORTIA GALACIFOLIA

Oconee Bells, *Shortia galacifolia*, is one of our rarest wildflowers. It is native only to a few isolated areas in North and South Carolina. A specimen, though, can be seen closer to home -- our home, that is. In our yard is a *Shortia* that was purchased at a wildflower nursery last fall. With Anne's TLC it got through the winter, and as of March 16 a dozen or more buds were peeping through the mulch.

AROUND THE CALENDAR

Can you name a wildflower that is in bloom twelve months of the year in this area?

I have seen *Stellaria media*, the common chickweed, blooming in every single month.

JASPER BROWN

In memory of Jasper Brown, the Botanical Society has made a contribution to the Nature Conservancy and taken out membership in that organization.

Mary Lou conveys her thanks to all of the members of our Society --

2331 Rochester Rd
Pgh Pa 15237
2-22-85

Dear Howard and all members of
Botanical Society of W. Pa.

Thank you for the beautiful letter to the Conservancy, a copy of which you sent me.

I do very much appreciate this beautiful gift in Jay's memory, and am sure all our children and grandchildren will do so also, for they and I will walk through Conservancy woods in days to come, and remember trips there with Jay.

I thank you all for your love and kindness in these sad days.

Mary Lou